

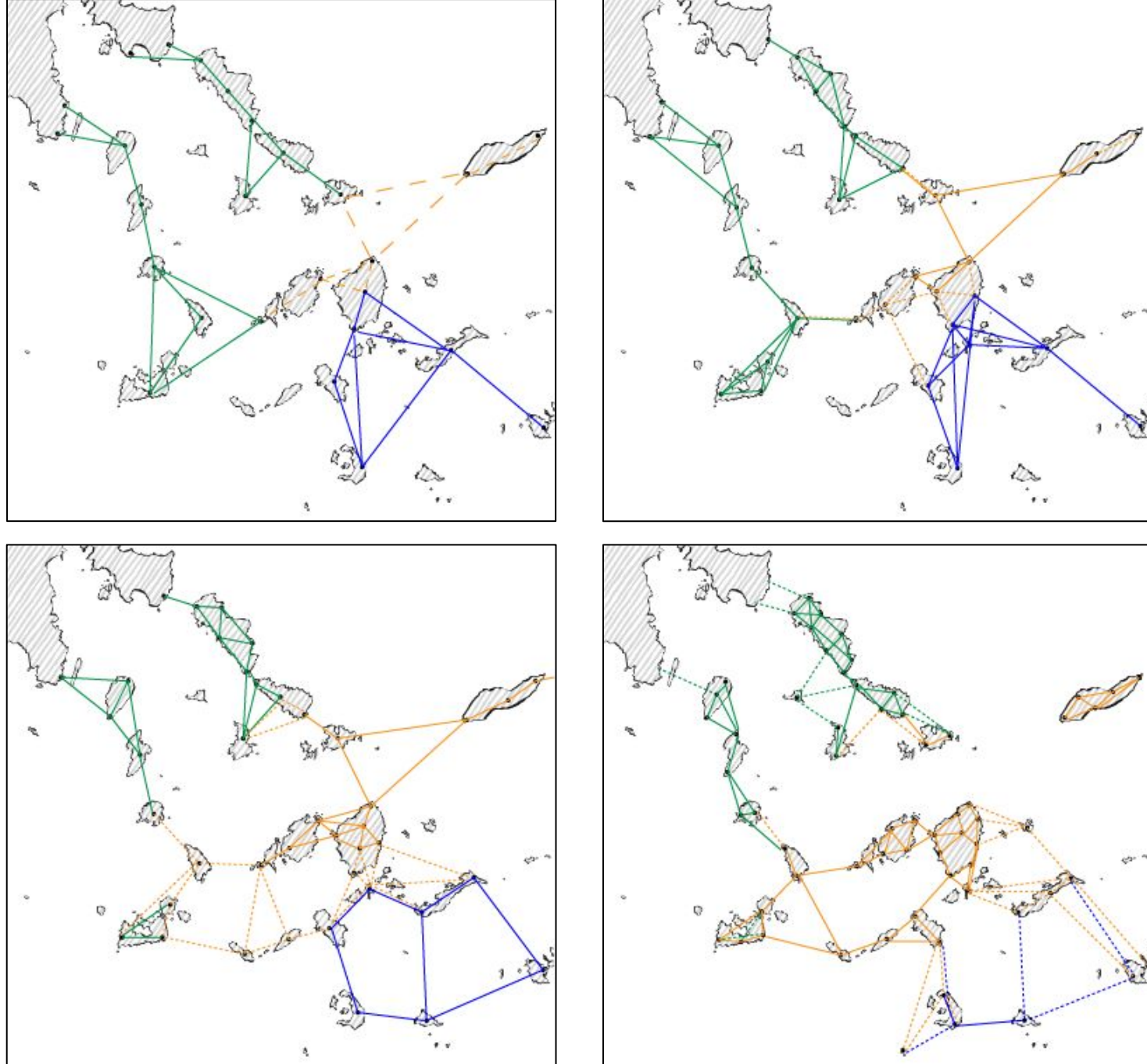


Fig. 4: Broodbank's Proximal Point Analysis, Modified.

This is the modified PPA model created to simulate cultural diffusion within island networks. The purpose is to model that the land configuration of the Cyclades not only encourages certain networks to form, but that the potential avenues of cultural exchange can be predicted.

The colored nodes behave in consistent ways. In PPA1, orange represents potential theatres of contact in the earlier phases of Neolithic colonization. Green-to-Blue connections are not made if distance exceeds 20km canoe distance. Connections that can be made are represented by orange, which follows certain rules. Icaria is included for Broodbank's reasons, to not impose arbitrary borders. Icaria can be said to represent a "possible diffusion point" from the very beginning, and since Saliagos diagnostics do appear.

In PPA 2/3/4, orange follows these basic rules: a dotted line in previous PPA becomes solid in the next. Connections made from the new node are dotted orange lines to simulate a "chain reaction" of diffusion. They are allowed to form two dotted lines from their original solid-colored node. If the number of dotted orange lines outnumbers a node in contrast to its Green or Blue solid connections, then the node in the next PPA will follow orange rules in the next model. This modification is crucial as it emphasizes the role of landmass configuration which is the main purpose of the PPA.

What is suggested by this is that the distribution of this cultural exchange was asymmetrical. By PPA4, it appears that the northwest islands, possibly due to their very configuration, remain tied to one another and the mainland in ways that Erimonisia/Naxos are not, the latter being separated from their preceding islands by a much wider sea distance. The epicenter of the ECII culture, which I argued was a synthesis in the interaction of these two groups (and likely exchanges further abroad), takes place within this Erimonisia/Naxos nucleus.

It cannot be overstated that this model is not meant to show actual sites, nor is it necessarily implying two peoples and ONLY two peoples entered the islands. But what can be said for certain is that Kephala culture is so similar to Attica diagnostics that they can be said to represent an "Attic-Kephala culture", while those who are most likely to have made it to the SE islands are those that would have come from the coasts of Asia Minor where such a crossing would be favorable. As stated in the video, the colors are meant to simulate "probable" or "approximate" groups of people, in order to break out of the rigidity of these labels that even the most recent research on the islands is starting to call into question.